Construction of a Sluice in the Vettiyar Channel.

3. **MR. G. RAMAN MENON** (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Will the Government be pleased to construct a sluice with shutters at the place where the Vettiyar Channel (item No. 218, New Works in the P. W. D. Budget Estimates for 1101) joins the Kulakkada river in the Mavelikara taluk, for preventing the too heavy and prolonged flooding of the paddy fields and the consequent loss of crops in Tulam and Edavam?

MR T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Chief Engineer reports that the matter is engaging the attention of his department and that an estimate for the work is being prepared.

Leave to Miss D. H. Watts.

4. **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) why Miss D. H. Watts, the Lady Principal of the Women's College, went on leave to England;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that she has been cabled to to return soon; and

(*c*) if so, whether there is any special reason for sending such a cable?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) For change and rest outside India.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The cable was sent by the Director of Public Instruction with the permission of the Government, as the presence of Miss D. H. Watts, the permanent Principal, was found to be urgently necessary for consultation about several important matters arising in connection with the raising of the College for Women to the First Grade from the beginning of the next academic year, 1927-1928, and the opening of new classes.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know the date on which the cable was sent?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not remember the date.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know the date when the leave taken by her expired?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Under the original sanction, I think it will expire only in January.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know whether the member can say approximately how many days before the expiry of the leave that the cable was sent?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): More than 2 months.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know whether any advance money was sent?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, advance money for meeting the passage was sent.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know whether under the provisions of the T. S. R she is entitled to that advance?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): She is entitled to the travelling allowance.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Is she entitled to that advance?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Advance is given at the discretion of Government.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Is there any precedent in which that discretion was used?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There are cases in which advance money was given for forward journeys.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Therefore, this is a special case where advance money is given for return journey?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is no speciality about it. The advance will be adjusted when the travelling allowance is paid.

Opening of a Maternity Ward in the General Hospital.

5. **MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI** (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state when the sanction of the Government was given for opening a maternity ward in the General Hospital and what is the cause of the delay in carrying this order into effect?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): About three years ago, the question of converting the septic ward of the General Hospital into a lying-in ward, with labour room attached to it, was under contemplation. It was given up temporarily, as all the accommodation was needed for septic cases. The matter will be considered after the two new wards are occupied.

Rules re Night-schools.

6. **MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI** (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): With reference to the answer to question No. 25, asked at the meeting of the Council held on the 21st Karkatakam 1101, will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the rules sanctioned by them in connection with night-schools?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): A copy* of the rules asked for by the member is laid on the table.

Pupils of Class VII in Vernacular Schools.

7. **MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI** (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): (1) Will the Government be pleased to state the total strength of Class VII of the Vernacular schools in the year 1101?

**Vide* Appendix II—pages 16 and 17.

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